

CLAIM AMENDMENTS:

Please amend Claims 1, 2, and 13, as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) An image reading apparatus comprising:
an original placement portion on which an original is to be placed;
an optical unit provided below the original placement portion and
configured to move relative to the original placement portion; and
a guide member that guides movement of the optical unit and supports the
optical unit from below;
wherein the optical unit includes a unit frame configured to hold an optical
element, and includes a slider configured to slide on the guide member a screw configured to be
mounted in a screw hole formed on the unit frame, said slider having a screw that is vertically
threaded in a hole formed in the unit frame and that rides the guide member,
a head of the screw slides in contact with the guide member;
a vertical position of the unit frame relative to the guide member is
adjusted in accordance with a rotating amount of the screw,
a plurality of projecting portions are provided on a root of a thread of the
screw along a circumference of the thread, and are provided in an area other than a tip end area of
the screw, and
each of the projecting portions of the screw are plastically deformable and
screwed into the screw hole while being plastically deformed.

2. (Currently Amended) An image reading apparatus according to Claim 1,
wherein play between the screw and the screw hole is substantially
eliminated by plastic deformation of the projecting portions of the screw.
- 3.-4. (Cancelled)
5. (Previously Presented) An image reading apparatus according to Claim 1,
wherein the tip end of the screw has an engagement portion with which a
rotating tool engages.
6. (Previously Presented) An image reading apparatus according to Claim 1,
wherein the screw is made of a resin material.
7. (Cancelled)
8. (Previously Presented) An image reading apparatus according to Claim 1,
wherein a plurality of screws are provided at respective end portions of the
optical unit with respect to a direction orthogonal to a moving direction of the optical member
respectively.
9. (Cancelled)

10. (Previously Presented) An image reading apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising an illuminating unit configured to illuminate the original placement portion,

wherein the optical element is a mirror configured to reflect a reflection light from the original on the original placement portion that is illuminated with the illuminating unit.

11.-12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently Amended) An image reading apparatus comprising:

- an original illumination member;
- a reflection system configured to reflect light from the original;
- a scanning member configured to move the reflection system;
- a scanning support surface configured to ~~be scanned by~~ support the scanning member; and

a plurality of screws configured to be mounted in a plurality of screw holes formed on the scanning member, wherein a head of each of the screws slides in contact with the scanning support surface;

wherein a vertical position of the scanning member relative to the scanning support surface is adjusted in accordance with a rotating amount of the screw; and

wherein each of the screws has a plurality of plastically deformable projecting portions on a root of a thread thereof along a circumference of the thread, the projecting portions provided in an area other than a tip end area of the screw, and the projecting

portions and the screw hole engage each other in an interference fit in the axial direction of the screw.